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**FIVE LOCATIONS STATEWIDE TO HOLD BAR ADMISSION
CEREMONIES MAY 8**

Nearly 800 new attorneys will be admitted to practice in Illinois on Thursday, May 8 with Justices of the Illinois Supreme Court and the Illinois Appellate Court presiding and administering the attorney's oath at five separate locations.

All of the candidates have passed the Illinois State Bar Examination, a required ethics examination and have been certified by the Committee on Character and Fitness.

The largest group, 529, will be admitted in the First Judicial District during ceremonies starting at 10:30 a.m. in the Arie Crown Theater, McCormick Place East. Illinois Supreme Court Justice Charles E. Freeman will preside over the ceremony with Justices Thomas R. Fitzgerald and Anne M. Burke participating.

Kerry R. Peck, partner with the Chicago firm of Peck, Bloom, Austriaco & Mitchell, LLC, will make the motion to admit the class. Ann M. Lousin, professor of law at The John Marshall Law School, will second the motion to admit the class.

Other guests of the Illinois Supreme Court will be: Esther Tryban Telser, president of the Advocates Society; Anne Shaw, president of the Asian American Bar Association; Dorothy Capers, president of the Black Women Lawyer's Association of Greater Chicago; Hon. Kenneth Wright, first vice-president of the Chicago Bar Association; Hon. James Shapiro, president of the Decalogue Society of Lawyers; Theodore Karavidas, president of the Hellenic Bar Association of Illinois; Ruben Chapa, president of the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois; Joseph Bisceglia, president of the Illinois State Bar Association; Tara Raghavan, president of the Indian American Bar Association; Mauro Glorioso, president of the Justinian Society of Lawyers; Mario Sullivan, vice-president of the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago; Edwin Reyes, president of the Puerto Rican Bar Association; J. Andrew Langan, president of the Seventh Circuit Bar Association and Karen A. Enright, president of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

MORE

Bar Admission Ceremonies To Be Held May 8 Add One

Representatives from the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar who will be in attendance include: James R. Carroll, Lawrence N. Hill and Neil K. Quinn.

The 765 men and women were certified as candidates and will be sworn in as Illinois attorneys Thursday at ceremonies in the five Supreme Court judicial districts.

Here are the time and locations of Thursday's ceremonies:

Supreme Court Justice Rita B. Garman will preside over the Fourth Judicial District ceremony, 10 a.m., Supreme Court Courtroom, Second and Capitol Streets, Springfield.

Supreme Court Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier will preside over the Fifth Judicial District ceremony, 2 p.m., Gateway Convention Center, near Interstates 55/70 & Route 157, Collinsville.

Illinois Appellate Court Presiding Judge Robert E. Byrne will preside over the Second Judicial District ceremony, 10 a.m., Hemmens Memorial Building, Elgin Civic Center Plaza, 150 Dexter Court, Elgin.

Illinois Appellate Court Presiding Judge Mary McDade will preside over the Third Judicial District ceremony, 1:30 p.m., Appellate Court Building, 1004 Columbus Street, Ottawa.

The new attorneys will bring the total number of licensed attorneys in Illinois to approximately 85,000.

For more information contact Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at (312)793-2323.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312/793-2323)